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ROYAL CITIES - ITINERARY

11 AMAZING DAYS IN THE MOST BEAUTIFUL, HISTORICAL CITIES OF EUROPE

Day 01: Toronto, Canada

Setting out on an exciting cultural experience to the Royal Cities of Central Europe featuring traditional entertainment and a scenic cruise along the Danube River, we are picked up at our homes and whisked off to Pearson airport to catch our overnight flight to Prague.

Day 02: Prague, Czech Republic

Welcome to Prague, Czech Republic!

Upon arrival at Prague International Airport we are met by our representative whom will assist with our transfer and hotel check in.

After arriving in Prague, find out why it is called the "Golden City" or "The City of 100 Spires." You will adore the city's unique culture and architecture. This evening, join your fellow travellers for a welcome dinner. D.

Day 03: Prague, Czech Republic

Breakfast at the hotel.

After breakfast, your introduction to this fairy tale city begins with a panoramic tour. Visit and tour the majestic Hradcany Castle, including the gothic St. Vitus Cathedral. Then stroll down the quaint, colourful Golden Lane. Afterwards, discover the lovely statue-lined Charles Bridge. This afternoon, it's your time to explore. Perhaps shop for famous Bohemian crystal or visit one of the city's many outstanding museums, such as the Lapidarium, home of stone sculptures dating from the 11th century to the present.

This evening, it is a cultural treat as you get a taste of traditional Czech food, beer, wine and dancing. Dinner and overnight at our hotel. **B.D.**

Day 04: Prague, Czech Republic

Breakfast at the hotel.

Today enjoy the freedom to explore Prague on your own. Take a stroll to the old town square, home to the famous Orloj, which functions as a clock, calendar and primitive planetarium. You may also choose to join an optional excursion to Prague's Old Jewish Quarter to see its historic Jewish Museum and Europe's oldest surviving Jewish cemetery, founded in 1478 (supplement of guided program EURO 20).

Dinner and overnight at our hotel. **B.D.**



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Day 05: Prague - Cesky Krumlov, Czech Republic / Vienna, Austria

Breakfast at the hotel.

After breakfast we check out and depart Prague, traveling through the countryside to the grand city of Vienna, the capital of Austria.

En route, we make a stop in the fairy tale town of Cesky Krumlov. You will have some free time to explore the well-preserved streets lined with Baroque architecture before continuing on to Vienna.

Tonight you will be immersed in the culture as you enjoy local entertainment and sample locally-produced wine in the picturesque wine-making village of Grinzing.

Arrival and check in at our Vienna hotel.

Dinner and overnight at hotel. **B.D.**

Day 06: Vienna, Austria

Breakfast at the hotel.

This morning, join a local resident for a visit to magnificent Schoenbrunn Palace, the summer retreat of the Habsburg dynasty for more than 200 years. Continue on to get acquainted with Vienna's city centre. Along the way, behold the beautiful architecture, scenic parks and gothic spires that fill the city.

This evening you may choose to join an optional dinner followed by an unforgettable classical music concert featuring many fine melodies from the great composers - Mozart and Strauss (supplement EURO 115).

Overnight at our hotel. **B.**

Day 07: Vienna - Danube River - Melk – Vienna, Austria

Breakfast at the hotel.

After breakfast travel along the banks of the Danube to the medieval town of Durnstein where you embark on a scenic Danube River cruise. "Waltz" across one of the most breathtaking bodies of water in the World, immortalized by Strauss, and travel through the historic Wachau Valley. Later, visit the 11th-century Melk Abbey, famous for its production and collection of manuscripts.

A leisurely ride back to Vienna concludes this marvellous day.

You have a free evening to enjoy the city. Overnight at our hotel. **B.**



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Day 08: Vienna, Austria / Bratislava, Slovakia / Budapest, Hungary

Breakfast at the hotel.

After breakfast check out and depart for Bratislava, former coronation city and Imperial capital of the Hapsburg Empire. During your visit, a local expert will help us get to know the multilayered history of the city.

Afterwards, we continue on to Budapest, the "Queen of the Danube," truly one of the most beautiful cities of the World. Upon arrival, drive through this majestic city while making our way to our hotel where we check in.

We will have some leisure time to relax or explore before getting together tonight for dinner in the city.

Overnight at our hotel. **B.D.**

Day 09: Budapest, Hungary

Breakfast at the hotel.

After breakfast we join a local expert who brings the city to life. Discover Matthias Church, site of many coronations of kings. Next, be enamored by the Fisherman's Bastion with its white walls, towers and arcades for spectacular views. Continue to historic Old Buda and Gellert Hill, followed by the Parliament. At Heroes Square, admire the imposing Millennium Monument, completed in 1904, which memorializes the 1,000th anniversary of Hungarian dominion.

Overnight at our hotel. **B.**

Day 10: Budapest - Szentendre - Visegrad – Budapest, Hungary

Breakfast at the hotel.

After breakfast we departure for a full day excursion to the amazing Danube Bend. Begin your day with a visit to the beautiful Baroque town of Szentendre and the former Renaissance capital of Visegrad for a magnificent view of the Danube Bend and the Borzsony Mountains. Travel back in time with a visit to a 14th-century castle where knights with colourful costumes and authentic weaponry recreate the days of chivalry. Then, enjoy a special Renaissance-style dinner at the castle restaurant and re-enact the days of medieval times. Complete your fascinating cultural journey with an evening of wine and music.

Back to Budapest and overnight at our hotel. **B.D.**



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Day 11: Budapest, Hungary – Toronto, Canada

Alas, all good things must come to an end! After breakfast we check out from the hotel and transfer to Budapest International Airport for flight back to Toronto, carrying with us many fond memories to last a lifetime. Upon arrival at Toronto, we will take our limousine service home. **B.**

WELCOME HOME!